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THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 1 June 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 31 May 1995 from H.E. Mr. Hasan Muratovic, Minister in the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, President of the State Committee for Cooperation with the United Nations, addressed to Your Excellency (see annex).

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 39, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan Z. MISIC
Chargé d'affaires

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ANNEX

Letter dated 31 May 1995 from the Minister in the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and President of the State Committee for Cooperation with the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The extraordinary session of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina held on 31 May 1995 was devoted to the difficult security and humanitarian situation in Sarajevo.

The Government concluded that the entire United Nations mission in Sarajevo, complete with the ultimatum of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, had been out of control since 17 May 1995, and especially after Serb aggressor forces took complete control of weapons concentrated at former weapon collection points previously guarded by the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). The lives of our citizens are in constant danger and attacks with heavy weapons against Sarajevo are taking place every day.

We are forced to ask you whether the United Nations mission still exists and whether the NATO ultimatum is still in force.

The humanitarian situation in Sarajevo has deteriorated catastrophically. Since Sarajevo Airport was closed for airlift operations on 8 April 1995, food deliveries provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have become increasingly sporadic, and since 20 May 1995 UNHCR has not brought any food at all to the city. Serb aggressor forces cut the power, water and gas supply lines to the city, which has made the survival of our citizens even more difficult.

In order to avoid catastrophic consequences, we demand:

(a) That UNPROFOR be restored in full and that UNPROFOR, besides its occupation with its own problems, again assume its role of protecting the total exclusion zone of Sarajevo and the convoys transporting food to the city, all in conformity with the resolutions and other relevant documents of the Security Council, as well as with the NATO ultimatum;

(b) That UNHCR and UNPROFOR, without delay, start food deliveries by the route Metković-Tarčin-Hrasnica-Sarajevo, with the use of all necessary means for providing security on this route;

(c) That UNPROFOR, in conformity with previous Security Council documents, take control of the energy and water supply systems for the city of Sarajevo.

Excellency, we believe that you are fully aware of the role the United Nations had assumed as regards Sarajevo and of individual responsibility in the event of catastrophe threatening its inhabitants, that you grasp the gravity of the situation and that you will act accordingly and at once.

(Signed) Hasan MURATOVIĆ
Minister
President of the Committee